consideration their academic reputation, attainments of the faculty, physical facilities, institutional management, financial resources, responsiveness of the administrative structure and involvement of faculty etc. 133 colleges spread over 30 universities in nine States have so far been given the status of autonomous colleges under the scheme.

Standard of education in Government schools

†1930. DR. AKHTAR HASAN RIZVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that standard of education has fallen in Government schools;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the schemes Government are formulating to improve this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) "Education" is in the Concurent List of the Constitution, and management and academic arrangements in Government schools are primarily the concern of State Governments/ Union Territories. The Central Government has been emphasizing the need to constantly improve the quality of education. The 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' have also been launched to provide quality elementary education to all children in 6-14 age group by 2010. The scheme of 'Restructuring and Reorganisation of Teacher Education' is being implemented to create a viable institutional infrastructure, academic and technical resource base for orientation, training and continuos upgradation of knowledge, competence and pedagogical skills of school teachers in the country. A number of Centrally sponsored schemes like 'Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools', 'Improvement of Science Education in Schools', 'Environmental Orientation to School Education' etc. are being implemented for improving the quality of education.

Education for All Summit

1931. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether India has hosted a three day International Education for All Summit in November, 2003;

(b) if so, the countries that have participated and subjects discussed in this Summit;

(c) whether any declaration was made to ensure that children particularly girls has access to free and compulsory primary education by 2015; and

(d) if so, whether the Conference urged that special measures be taken to target adult illiteracy since mothers enhance access of girls to education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) and (b) The third meeting of the High Level Group on Education for All (EFA) was cohosted by India and UNESCO during 10-12th November, 2003. Sixteen countries, namely, Kyrgystan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, China, Congo, Cuba, Egypt, France, Guyana, Japan, Kenya, Nigeria, Pakistan and India participated in this meet.

The main subjects discussed were:

(i) Review of progress on EFA goals set in Dakar,

(ii) Action agenda for achieving gender goals,

(iii) National planning and policy reform,

(iv) International action for support and financing of EFA, and

(v) Challenges and opportunities: The path ahead.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir.

Bill on domestic violence

†1932. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bill regarding curbing of domestic violence against women is still pending;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.